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CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY

INFORMATION FROM FOREIGN DOCUMENTS OR RADIO BROADCASTS

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As indicated

SECURITY MEASURES IMPOSED IN THE GDR, ALBANIA, AND RUMANIA

URANIUM MINING TOWNS IN THE GDR ORDERED EVACUATED -- Stockholm, Svenska Dagbladet, 28 Oct 53

Bonn, 27 October (Svenska Dagbladet's German editorial staff) -- The 3,000 inhabitants of the GDR city of Johanngeorgenstadt have petitioned the Communist government for permission to move to West Germany, according to refugees in West Berlin. Johanngeorgenstadt lies within the uranium mining area, which is heavily guarded by the People's Police, and the inhabitants have received, on short notice, orders to evacuate their homes.

The government claims that the streets threaten to cave in because new mine passages have been cut near the surface of the earth. The people, however, believe that the evacuation orders are due to Soviet security measures. All attempts to obtain permission to remain have failed, and an evacuation commission has begun to close a number of buildings, the doors and windows of which have been walled up. Only those who work for the Russian mining concern Wismut AG have been promised new homes in the area for themselves and their families. Persons who have openly resisted evacuation have been arrested.

The number of East Germans who have been drafted for work in the Erzgebirge mines (the entire production of which goes to the USSR) is estimated at 200,000. Physically fit youths are given a choice between serving in the People's Police or working in the mines. In addition, political prisoners and criminals are sent to the mines to work out their sentences.

Hamburg, Hamburger Echo, 27 Oct 53

Two citizens of Johanngeorgenstadt, Paul Brueckler and Fritz Jaeger, who protested against the evacuation orders, are reported to have been arrested.

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Hamburg, Hamburger Abendblatt, 16 Nov 53

By order of the Soviet authorities, all of the civilian population of Oberschlema (Erzgebirge), former radium spa, have been evacuated. The town is so undermined by galleries from the neighboring uranium mines that several houses have collapsed.

PURGE OF GDR TRADE UNIONS -- Stockholm, Svenska Dagbladet, 16 Oct 53

Berlin, 15 October -- Within the next 4 weeks, membership cards for the 5 million members of the East German trade union will be subject to extra checking.

On 15 October, <u>Taegliche Rundschau</u>, the Goviet newspaper in Germany, demanded a new purge in the East German Communist Party. It is felt in West Berlin that there is a connection between the demand for a purge and the checking of the trade union membership cards.

SUSPENSIONS, REINSTATEMENTS OF GDR OFFICIALS -- Stockholm, Svenska Dagbladet, 16 Oct 53

According to <u>Freiheit</u>, GDR Communist newspaper, Hans Elsmann, acting mayor of the GDR city of Halle, has been discharged because his wife was an agent for an American espionage center in West Berlin.

Stockholm, Svenska Dagbladet, 19 Oct 53

Berlin, 18 October (Svenska Dagbladet's special correspondent) -- Vincenz Muller, General of the People's Police, who was suspended some time ago from his post as deputy leader of the National Democratic Party in the GDR, reported today to the party congress that he would be unable to participate in the congress because of sickness. He also notified the party leadership that he would be unable to continue his party work, inasmuch as his responsible position as police chief required all his time. In a letter to Muller, Foreign Minister Lothar Bolz, chairman of the party, expressed the hope that Muller would soon be feeling better. Muller has also quit his post as Deputy Minister of Interior Affairs.

The press reports today that Wilhelm Zaisser, former GDR Minister of State Security, has returned to the GDR and is now being interrogated by the party

Rudolf Herrnstadt, former editor in chief of Neues Deutschland, the Communist Party's central organ, was discharged because of his association with Zaisser and Dahlem: however, he has been appointed director of the Merseburg division of the central archives. Franz Dahlem, Communist cadre chief, has been assigned to handle "tactical negotiations" for the party archives. He is still at the disposal of the party control commission, however. The control commission has now begun to investigate all those Communists who fled to the West during the Nazi regime.

SURVEILLANCE OF FOREIGN DIPLOMATS IN RUMANIA -- Athens, Le Messager d'Athenes,

Authorities have set up a car pool on Strada Filipescu for shadowing diplomatic vehicles. This car pool is in direct telephone contact with agents who watch the foreign embassies and legations. Two cars are always ready to follow the cars of the US diplomatic mission.

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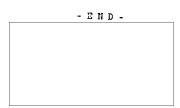
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The service for surveillance of the foreign diplomats in Bucharest is headed by a Soviet colonel who speaks Rumanian with a strong Russian accent. His principal aide is a Rumanian, Virgil Ionescu, who is a captain in the Militia and is often sent abroad as a diplomatic courier.

RESTRICTION ON BOAT MOVEMENTS IN ALBANIAN WATERS -- Salonica, Makedonia, 9 Dec 53

Alexandria -- According to information in the Egyptian press, Albanian authorities have taken strict measures to prevent bosts from leaving Albanian. ers without permission. A small Albanian boat recently arrived in Co; reece, with a number of refugees: as a result, special permits from the Albanian security police are now required for travel along the Albanian coast. Moreover, an order requires all boats to be reregistered at specified places; those not reregistered will be confiscated.

The Albanian security police has temporarily halted traffic in the Vlona region. A thorough investigation is being conducted to discover any persons connected with the escape of the Albanian boat to Greece.



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